

## Comments



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL AIR WEAPONS STATION  
1 ADMINISTRATION CIRCLE  
CHINA LAKE, CALIFORNIA 93555-6100

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5090  
Ser 8G0000D/ 6292  
7 Dec 98

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MOJAVE NATIONAL  
PRESERVE

Superintendent, United States Department of Interior  
National Park Service  
Mojave National Preserve  
222 East Main Street, Suite 202  
Barstow, CA 92311

Dear Sir:

The Naval Air Weapons Station (NAVAIRWPNSTA), China Lake, California has completed review of the *Draft Environmental Impact Statement and General Management Plan for Death Valley National Park, California and Nevada*. The Navy offers the following comments on this document. These comments have been provided by Ms. Tina Evans, Airspace Manager, Code 52E000D, who may be reached at telephone (760) 939-5071.

On page 113, Noise Overflights section, the Navy recommends the following changes:

- a. First paragraph, change "U.S. Naval Weapons Center" to read "Naval Air Weapons Station". Following "China Lake", add "Edwards AFB".
- b. Second paragraph, change "restricted airspace complex" to read "R-2508 Special Use Airspace Complex". Change " (R2508) " to read "Saline, Panamint and Shoshone MOAs". There was some confusion as to whether or not the airspace referred to is restricted or MOA.
- c. Third paragraph: The manner in which the existing paragraph is written implies that the agreement and process is limited to Edwards AFB, yet the aircraft operations are from other commands. The joint management of the Complex instituted the restriction and implements current procedures for the complaint process. Change the third paragraph to read "In 1976, the Joint Policy and Planning Board Commanders (NWC China Lake, Edwards AFB, Fort Irwin, and George AFB) agreed to restrict overflight above the existing National Monument boundaries to 3,000 feet above ground level within the R-2508 Complex. The successive creation of the Complex MOAs in 1977 excluded this airspace; however, the exclusion was not extended to the expanded areas under the later designated Death Valley National Park. Occasionally, pilots have flown over the designated areas below the 3,000 foot restriction. A process is in place for all complaints and reports of overflight restriction violations, forwarded by the National Park Service or the public, to be investigated and handled by the Complex management".

DON1

## Responses

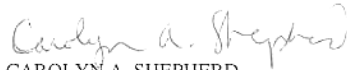
DON1. Changes have been made.

**Comments**

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Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this document. If you require further assistance or have any questions regarding the above comments, Mr. Steve Cooper is the NAVAIRWPNSTA point of contact for this project. You may direct questions to him at (760) 927-1511.

Sincerely,



CAROLYN A. SHEPHERD  
Head, Environmental Project Office  
By direction of  
the Commanding Officer

**Responses**